

Defending God's Truth – Part 4 of 6

Answering More Challenges

DVD Presenter: Mike Riddle

www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com

Since we live in a time when many are questioning the reliability of the Bible, it is important for us to have *solid answers from the Word of God!*

Challenge 5 (26:45-38:07): The word “day” can mean a long period of time!

1. ^{ESV} **Genesis 1:5** “God called the light Day [יום - yom], and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day [יום - yom].”
2. Yes, the word “day” can mean a long period of time *but it can also mean an ordinary, 24-hour day!*
3. Hermeneutics – The study of the interpretation of written texts. To know the meaning of a particular word, we must study it within its context.
4. In these verses, “day” appears with a number and does *not* mean a long or indefinite period of time:
 - a. ^{ESV} **Exodus 20:10** “...but the **seventh day** is a Sabbath to the LORD your God.”
 - b. ^{ESV} **Leviticus 13:5** “And the priest shall examine him on the **seventh day**, and if in his eyes the disease is checked and the disease has not spread in the skin, then the priest shall shut him up for another **seven days**.⁶ And the priest shall examine him again on the **seventh day**...”
 - c. ^{ESV} **Numbers 10:11** “In the second year, in the second month, on the **twentieth day** of the month, the cloud lifted from over the tabernacle...”
5. The Ten Commandments (Ex. 20; Deut. 5):
 - a. Do they actually mean what the LORD commanded? Y N
 - b. ^{ESV} **Exodus 20:9** “**Six days** you shall labor, and do all your work,¹⁰ but the **seventh day** is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.¹¹ For in **six days** the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the **seventh day**. Therefore the LORD blessed the **Sabbath day** and made it holy.”
6. The numbering of the commandments:
 - a. **First**: ^{ESV} **Exodus 20:3** “You shall have no other gods before me.”
 - b. **Second** **OR** an explanation of the First:⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.”
7. The Rule: Always accept the literal meaning of the words in a passage unless there is strong evidence to do otherwise.
8. God's work of creating in six days is a miracle, just like Jesus' virgin birth, rising from the dead, and other miracles.

9. **2 Peter 3:8:**
 - a. The context is end times, *not creation*.
 - b. The word “**as**” is a *figure of speech*; we are bound by time, but the Lord is not. The various references to creation do not use figures of speech; they are written in literal terms.

Challenge 6 (38:08-47:16): How do you fit dinosaurs into the Bible?

10. This is the right question: What does the Bible teach about dinosaurs?
11. God created the beasts of the earth on day number 6, *so God created dinosaurs and people on the same day*: ^{ESV} **Job 40:15** “Behold [see, look], Behemoth, which I made as I made you; he eats grass like an ox. ¹⁶ Behold, his strength in his loins, and his power in the muscles of his belly. ¹⁷ He makes his tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together. ¹⁸ His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like bars of iron.”
12. The word “dinosaur” is not in the Bible *because it did not become a word until 1841*.
13. The many drawings of dinosaurs all over the world *point to the fact that people actually saw such animals*.

Challenge 7 (47:17-54:30): God could have used evolution! The age of the earth is not important!

14. Yes, God could have used evolution; God can do anything. BUT what did God actually do? *We find that answer in the Bible!*
15. Did God use evolution?
 - a. If yes, then death occurred before sin. But the Bible teaches that “**the wages of sin is death**” (**Rom. 6:23**). So the Biblical order is sin > death > Jesus –

who won the victory over sin and death! The Bible says that God’s work is perfect (Deut. 32:4), God’s way is perfect (Ps. 18:30), and God Himself is perfect (Mt. 5:48); also, what God made was “very good” (Gen. 1:31). Such things do not fit at all with millions of years of death before mankind.

- b. The Bible clearly teaches that God created in six days (Gen. 1; Ex. 20; etc.); also, Jesus said: ^{ESV} **Mark 10:6** “...from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’”
- c. Logic – the law of non-contradiction: This is one example of the many different positions between the Bible and evolution (*so if evolution is true, the Bible must be false*):
 - i. Bible: Earth first, then stars.
 - ii. Evolution: Stars first, then earth.
16. What is one huge problem with saying that God used evolution? A belief in millions of years puts man’s wisdom above God’s Word.

Conclusion (54:31-58:01):

17. Six reasons for apologetics – *for defending God’s Word*:
 - a. Defends Christianity.
 - b. Strengthens believers.
 - c. Makes the Bible relevant.
 - d. Glorifies God.
 - e. Helps believers evangelize the lost (break down the barriers; then give them the gospel).

- f. Demonstrates obedience to God's Word:
 - i. 2 Timothy 3:16
 - ii. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5
 - iii. 1 Peter 3:15
 - iv. James 1:22
 - v. Jude 3
 - vi. Colossians 4:5-6
 - vii. Titus 1:9

18. ^{ESV} **2 Timothy 2:15** "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."

Review and Training

Challenge 5: The word "day" can mean a long period of time!

1. The word "day" can mean a long period of time *but it can also mean an _____, ___-hour day!*
2. To know the meaning of a particular word, we must study it within its _____.
3. The Ten Commandments (Ex. 20; Deut. 5): Do they actually mean what the LORD commanded? Y N
4. The Rule: Always accept the _____ meaning of the words in a passage unless there is strong evidence to do otherwise.
5. God's work of creating in six days is a _____, just like Jesus' virgin birth, rising from the dead, and other miracles.

Challenge 6: How do you fit dinosaurs into the Bible?

6. God created the beasts of the earth on day number __, *so God created dinosaurs and people on the same day.*

7. The word "dinosaur" is not in the Bible *because it did not become a word until _____.*
8. The many _____ of dinosaurs all over the world *point to the fact that people actually _____ such animals.*

Challenge 7: God could have used evolution! The age of the earth is not important!

9. Did God use evolution?
 - a. If yes, then death occurred before _____.
 - b. Jesus said: ^{ESV} **Mark 10:6** "...from the _____ of creation, 'God made them male and female.'"
 - c. One of many contradictions between the Bible and evolution:
 - i. Bible: _____ first, then _____.
 - ii. Evolution: _____ first, then _____.
10. A belief in millions of years puts _____ wisdom above God's Word.

Conclusion:

11. Six reasons for apologetics – *for defending God's Word:*
 - a. Defends C _____.
 - b. Strengthens b _____.
 - c. Makes the Bible r _____.
 - d. Glorifies G _____.
 - e. Helps believers evangelize the _____.
 - f. Demonstrates _____ to God's Word:
12. ^{ESV} **2 Timothy 2:15** "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, _____ handling the word of truth."